



**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT NEWS**  
**The Monthly Electronic Newsletter of**  
**Homeland Security and Emergency Management**  
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August 2007



**VY CUTS POWER DUE TO COOLING TOWER LEAK** – Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant reduced its power output to about 50 percent on August 21<sup>st</sup> after one of its 22 cooling towers developed a leak and part of its structure collapsed (pictured above). The cooling tower is part of the secondary cooling system, which is used to cool water being returned to the Connecticut River. The power reduction is not safety related. It was made to ensure that the plant's cooling water stays within temperature limits before being returned to the river. Vermont Yankee will continue to operate at reduced power until the cooling tower is repaired.

**ENFIELD TAKES WEATHER HIT** – A strong system of thunderstorms moved into New Hampshire on August 16<sup>th</sup>, bringing high winds, some brief downpours – even scattered hail. There were scattered power outages and trees down across the state, but Enfield seemed to have gotten the worst of it. Falling trees there seriously damaged or destroyed homes, camps and vehicles. So many trees were downed in the Shaker Hill Road area that roads were impassable and National Grid had to cut power to the town as a safety precaution.

The utility reported 777 customers lost power as a result of the storm. Twenty-five crews from National Grid, Verizon and utility contractors responded to the area to clear lines and reset poles. Most customers were restored by the following day, but the cleanup continued for much longer. No injuries were reported as a result of the storm.

**EM ADDRESSES FUNCTIONAL NEEDS** – “Functional needs” is the collective term the State of New Hampshire uses to describe people who need response assistance. These include people with disabilities. But it also includes people who live in various institutional settings, don’t speak fluent English or have no transportation – even tourists who are not familiar with the area are included. Emergency managers need to be aware of people with functional needs in their communities and be able to accommodate them during emergencies. Emergency plans should include specific provisions for people with functional needs, so they can understand and respond to emergency instructions. All HSEM staff will be trained on functional needs issues during September.

The state’s functional needs guidance was unveiled at last spring’s state emergency management conference in Manchester. That guidance will be posted on the HSEM website shortly.

**ANNUAL PREPAREDNESS CONFERENCE COMING UP** – Volunteer NH!/Citizen Corps has scheduled its annual preparedness training conference for Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Grappone Center in Concord. It is targeted to disaster volunteers and emergency management professionals who work with volunteers. Christopher M. Pope, Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, will address the plenary session. That will be followed by breakout sessions on training resources for volunteers, building community and church-based disaster response organizations and developing public health preparedness. The conference is free and includes lunch. Registration information is available at [www.volunteernh.org](http://www.volunteernh.org).

**HSEEP COURSE SCHEDULED FOR FALL** – Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program Module 6 will be offered in Lancaster and Goffstown in September and at the N.H. Fire Academy in October. The four-hour course outlines an eight-step process for evaluation and improvement planning for Homeland Security exercises. The course also covers methods of selecting and training exercise evaluators and drafting after-action reports. There is no charge for the course, but registration is limited to 20 participants on a first-come, first-served basis. IS-120, an Introduction to Exercises, is a prerequisite. That course may be taken on-line at [www.hseep.dhs.gov](http://www.hseep.dhs.gov).

The course is offered from 6-10 p.m. on September 12<sup>th</sup> at the Lancaster Fire Department, September 26<sup>th</sup> at Goffstown Fire Department, Station 19 and October 3<sup>rd</sup> at N.H. Fire Academy in Concord. Registration is through the N.H. Fire Academy General Admission Application, which may be obtained at [www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems](http://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems).

**SAVE THE DATE** – The Basic Public Information Officer training course will be offered at the Jaffrey Fire Department Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>. Mark Fowke, former Manchester Police Department PIO, will be the instructor. For more information, call the N.H. Fire Academy at 1-800-371-4503.

**AMERICORPS\*VISTAS AID EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT** – N.H. Homeland Security has entered into an agreement with the Greater Manchester Chapter of American Red Cross to coordinate a cadre of AmeriCorps\*VISTA members who, for 12 months or longer, will assist local and regional emergency managers, public health networks and emergency preparedness volunteer coordinators with developing and training local volunteer resources. We have three well-qualified volunteers in the program:

- Amy Moutenot is from Cranbury, New Jersey, a 1997 graduate of Marietta College who has worked in TV news for 7 1/2 years.
- Erin Kizer from Houston, Texas, is a graduate of Cornell University with course work in city planning.
- Sam Musen from Newton, Massachusetts, is a graduate of Clark University with a Masters of Science in Professional Communication.

Amy and Erin are working with HSEM as community outreach coordinators for long-term recovery and for all-hazards volunteer recruitment. Sam is working with communities on their mitigation projects.

**(Editor's note:** In the last issue we described Amy as an intern. This is what we really meant. Our apologies to her.)

**TECHNICIAN JOINS IMC SHOP** – James Monico has been hired full time as a radiological instrumentation electronic technician in the Radiological Instrumentation, Maintenance and Calibration Facility, which provides radiological equipment for communities throughout New Hampshire. He has been working on a part-time basis since January delivering equipment. Welcome aboard to Jim and the AmeriCorps\*VISTA volunteers.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS SOUGHT ON HAZ-MIT PLAN** – HSEM is seeking public comments on the 2004 State Hazard Mitigation Plan as part of an effort to update that plan. The plan provides an overview of the hazards that affect the state and details on how the state will address planning for hazards and reducing the impact of those hazards. The plan is available on-line at the HSEM website under the Hazard Mitigation section. Comments may be addressed to Richard Verville, State Hazard Mitigation Officer at [Richard.Verville@hsem.nh.gov](mailto:Richard.Verville@hsem.nh.gov).

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT RADIO SPOTS TO AIR IN SEPTEMBER** – N.H. Homeland Security and Emergency Management, in cooperation with the N.H. Association of Broadcasters, has produced a new series of 60-second radio spots on emergency management themes. The six messages include information on school emergency planning, home emergency preparations, flooding and disaster training for volunteers. They will begin airing on New Hampshire radio stations in late September.